

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AUG 25 2004

Technology Center 2600

In accordance with the Applicants' duty to disclose information which may be material to the examination of this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that the Examiner consider on the merits the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) before issuing the first Office Action on the merits. We are enclosing herewith a copy of each document listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified).

It should be noted that the above-identified application may be related by subject matter to the following U.S. Application(s): 09/858,146, filed May 15, 2001 (published as U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0013153 A1); 09/862,185, filed May 21, 2001 (published as U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0004412 A1); and 09/862,184, filed May 21, 2001 (published as U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0055361 A1).

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56(a) and M.P.E.P. 2004, paragraph 9, the applicant brings these co-pending applications to the attention of the Examiner. The Examiner should consider this information during the prosecution of the above-identified application. However, citation of these applications does not constitute an admission that the claims of the present application are substantially similar or similar to those of the applications listed above.

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listed above.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The Applicants believe that this IDS is being submitted after the submission of a Request for Continued Examination (RCE), before the issuance of a first Office Action on the merits and before the issuance of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance. Therefore, no official fees should be due; and this IDS should be considered on the merits. If this IDS is being submitted after the issuance of the first Office Action on the merits and before the issuance of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, please contact the undersigned to authorize a payment of \$180.00 (or any other required amount), which is the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), if the Examiner believes that such a fee is due in order for this IDS to be considered on the merits.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. (Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.)

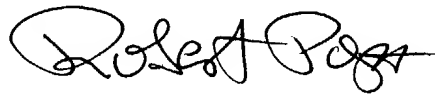
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The person making this statement is the practitioner who signs below on the basis of information supplied by an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application (37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c)) and on the basis of information in the practitioner's file.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as Priority Mail in a package addressed to the "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450", on August 18, 2004 by Shana Morda.

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Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures: Form PTO-1449 (modified) (3 pages)  
Copy of documents listed on Form PTO-1449 (modified)



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Form PTO-1449 (Modified) Page 1 of 3	ATTY DOCKET NO. B-4180 618802-6	U.S. SERIAL NO. 09/858,148
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS STATEMENT	APPLICANT Simon Edwin CROUCH, et al.	
	FILING DATE May 15, 2001	GROUP 2685

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	DOCUMENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE or 102(e) DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	5,329,576	07/1994	Handforth	379	59	
	5,432,841	07/1995	Rimer	379	59	
	5,555,376	09/1996	Theimer et al.	395	209.09	
	6,119,012	09/2000	Amirijoo	455	456	
	6,173,180 B1	01/2001	Hussain et al.	455	433	
	6,211,818 B1	04/2001	Zach, Sr.	342	357.07	
	6,223,044 B1	04/2001	Schultz	455	456	
	6,249,245 B1	06/2001	Watters et al.	342	357.03	
	6,356,761 B1	03/2002	Huttunen et al.	455	456	
	6,370,629 B1	04/2002	Hastings et al.	711	163	
	6,377,791 B2	04/2002	Pirilä	455	410	
	6,456,852 B2	09/2002	Bar et al.	455	456	
	6,462,656 B2	10/2002	Ulrich et al.	340	539	
	6,539,200 B1	03/2003	Schiff	455	12.1	
	6,549,625 B1	04/2003	Rautila et al.	380	258	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.



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	DOCUMENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE or 102(e) DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	6,594,666 B1	07/2003	Biswas et al.	707	100	
	6,624,754 B1	09/2003	Hoffman et al.	340	573.1	
	6,625,457 B1	09/2003	Raith	455	456.1	
	6,633,877 B1	10/2003	Saigh et al.	707	10	
	6,636,742 B1	10/2003	Torkki et al.	455	456.1	
	6,636,894 B1	10/2003	Short et al.	709	225	
	6,650,284 B1	11/2003	Maninnngs et al.	342	357.09	
	6,662,108 B1	12/2003	Miller et al.	701	301	
	6,675,014 B1	01/2004	Sundquist	455	435.1	
	6,677,894 B2	01/2004	Sheynblat et al.	342	357.1	
	6,748,226 B1	6/2004	Wortham	455	456.6	
	6,748,318 B1	6/2004	Jones	701	201	
	2002/0013153 A1	1/2002	Wilcock et al.	455	456	
	2002/0004412 A1	1/2002	Waters	455	556	
	2002/0055361 A1	5/2002	McDonnell et al.	455	456	

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO
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OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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